

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Board of Manager's Minutes
July 13, 2023

President, Dale M. Nelson, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lake Watershed District Office, Thief River Falls, MN.

Present: Managers: Dale M. Nelson, Gene Tiedeman, Terry Sorenson, Tom Anderson, LeRoy Ose, and Allan Page. Absent: Brian Dwight. Staff Present: Tammy Audette, Ann Joppru, Melissa Bushy, Tony Olson and Legal Counsel, Delray Sparby. Guests: Nate Dalager, Tony Nordby, Mike Solsten, and Dylan Nelson.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Ose, seconded by Anderson, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the June 29, 2023, minutes. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Ose, to approve the June 29, 2023, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report dated July 12, 2023. Motion by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the Financial Report dated July 12, 2023. Motion carried.

Staff member Ann Joppru reviewed the 2023 General Fund as of June 30, 2023.

The Board reviewed the 2024 Budget and Salary timeline. The Budget and Salary Committee will meet prior to the July 27, 2023, Board meeting to prepare the budget.

The Board reviewed a request from Polk County Engineer, Rich Sanders, requesting the District review three dams located within Polk County. The dams are located at: Badger Creek – outlet to Badger Lake near Erskine, Mitchell Lake (JD 73); outlet to Mitch Lake SW of Erskine, Maple Lake Outlet (CD 14); Outlet to Maple Lake SE of Mentor. Engineer Tony Nordby, Houston Engineering, addressed the Maple Lake Outlet Dam stating that it is in failing condition right now, and stated there is a possibility of the project that may gain Flood Damage Reduction benefits. The County of Polk, RLWD, and the DNR should get all parties together to evaluate to see if its worth developing a project or not and to see if there are any FDR benefits? It was the consensus of the Board, that if Polk County wishes to initiate a meeting on the potential of further review, the District would be willing to participate.

Administrator Tammy Audette stated that District staff located a large beaver dam upstream of Pine Lake, RLWD Project No. 35 on the Lost River. Audette questioned, how far do we go upstream to remove beaver dams as affecting the system project? President Nelson asked that District staff research who would have jurisdiction to remove the dam.

The Board reviewed a proposal from the RRWMB and Houston Engineering, Inc., for Facilitation Services for the Turtle Cross Connection Project, RLWD Project No. 114. Administrator Audette stated that the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group (FDRWG) will pay 50% of all facilitation services up to \$11,684.75. Motion by Ose, seconded by Tiedemann, to

approve the Facilitation Services in the amount of \$5,842.38 as the District's share for the Turtle Cross Connection Project, RLWD Project No. 114.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Andrew Graham, Red River Basin Coordinator, regarding the FDRWG Project Team funding process. Project team support funds will be awarded per active project team, rather than per watershed district. This means districts that have more project teams active each year are eligible to receive more funding than districts that have fewer project teams.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Andrew Graham, Red River Basin Coordinator regarding a FDRWG Five Year Monitoring Program. A motion was made by Tiedemann, seconded by Page, to approve the FDRWG Five Year Monitoring Program on the Brandt Impoundment, RLWD Project No. 60D and the Grand Marais Creek Project, RLWD Project No. 60E. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed repairs to the Demarais/Hanson Outlet Project, RLWD Project No. 149. The landowner adjacent to the ditch upstream of the project site suggested that snow be removed from the ditch prior to spring runoff. It was the consensus of the Board that Administrator Audette contact Red Lake County to see if they would be willing to remove snow prior to spring runoff event and report back to the Board.

The Board reviewed photos of dewatering at the Thibert Dam Repair Project, RLWD Project No. 50G.

The Board reviewed Amendment No. 1 for Contract Agreement between the District and the State of Minnesota for construction of the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129 AX. The total project cost estimate is estimated to be \$174,598.83. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Tiedemann, to approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract Agreement between the District and the State of Minnesota for construction of the Fladeland Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AX. Construction has begun on the Beich Ring Dike, RLWD Project No. 129AY. The estimated project cost is \$141,284.60.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. Motion by Sorenson, seconded by Page, to approve the following permits with conditions as stated on the permit: No. 23015, James and Grant Pulkrabek, Keystone Township, Polk County; No. 23032, Bruce Peterson, Garnes Township, Red Lake County; No. 23076, Wade Joppru, North Township, Pennington County; No. 23078, David Brule, Terrebonne Township, Red Lake County; No. 23080, Earl Pederson, Grove Park Township, Polk County; No. 23083, Leroy Pazdernik, Red Lake Falls Township, Red Lake County; No. 23086, Aaron Miller, Pennington County, Star Township; No. 23088, Pennington County, Black River Township, Pennington County; No. 23089, Shirley Coauette, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 23090, Pennington County, River Falls Township, Pennington County; No. 23093, Wyandotte Township, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23094, Wyandotte Township, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23095, Wyandotte Township, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23096, Wyandotte Township, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23097, Pennington County, Sanders Township, Pennington County; No. 23098, Red Lake County Highway Dept, Equality Township, Red Lake

County; 23100, Paul Donarski, Wyandotte Township, Pennington County; No. 23101, Paul Donarski, Smiley Township, Pennington County; No. 23102, Eric Johnson, Euclid Township, Polk County; No. 23103, Doug Qualley, Crookston Township, Polk County; No. 23107, City of St Hilaire, River Falls Township, Pennington County; No. 23109, CM Farmland Holdings GP, Winsor Township, Clearwater County; Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Staff member Corey Hanson has been invited to participate in the Advisory Committee for the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group Monitoring Program. It is anticipated that this will take approximately 6-8 hours per year of Corey's time. Additional information is included in the packet.
- Administrator Audette plans to participate virtually in a Drainage Work Group meeting following this Board meeting. The agenda for the meeting is included in the packet.
- Administrator Audette will be attending the RRWMB Board meeting in Ada on Tuesday, July 18, 2023.
- Our office will again be hosting the 2023-24 River Watch Fall Kickoff on Friday, September 29, 2023. The Board will be kept posted on the events to come.
- Corey Hanson and Administrator Audette participated in the first meeting for the Red Lake River 1W1P Mid-Point Grant meeting. Staff from Houston Engineering, Inc. discussed an evaluation of the 1W1P process and what has and has not worked for the LGU's.
- Corey Hanson and staff from the local SWCD offices met to prepare a joint Clean Water Fund Grant application for various projects throughout our District. The grant application would include a request for funding for the Crescent Avenue Project located within the City of Crookston.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



LeRoy Ose, Secretary